Government takes advice from the NASSCOM, and, any grievances are usually addressed to the NASSCOM, and we help them to solve the problem.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: Sir, I have just one simple question. So far as the question paper is concerned, this BPO is not Branching Process Operations, it is Business Process Operations. I, actually, feel that you should see to it that questions are properly corrected, because otherwise it will send a wrong signal....(*Interruptions*)..

AN HON. MEMBER: Business Process Outsourcing.

SHRI MANOJ BHATTACHARYA: I know Business Process Outsourcing, that is correct, but the question paper goes to many people. It is a wrong notion that we are carrying.

Widening of Highways in Tamil Nadu

*166. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government had accorded its approval for converting the Madurai-Aruppukottai-Tuticorin Highway into a four lane road;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the other National Highways in Tamil Nadu that are being converted into four or six lane for which accord had been given, recently?

THE MINISTER OF SHIPPING, ROAD TRANSPORT AND HIGHWAYS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) to (c) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. Four laning of Madurai-Aruppukottai-Tuticorin section of National Highway No. 45 B (length 144 km) in Tamil Nadu on Build Operate Transfer (BOT) toll basis is included in the approved National Highways Development Project (NHDP) Phase IIIA.

(c) Four laning of following National Highways in Tamil Nadu has also been approved to be taken up on BOT Toll basis under NHDP Phase

III A besides Madurai-Aruppukottai-Tuticorin section of NH-45 B:

Sl. No.	NH No.	Stretches	Length in km
1.	45	Dindigul-Trichy	80
2.	47	Kerala-TN Border Kanyakumari	56
3.	66	TN/Pondicherry border-Tindivanam	36
4.	66	Krishnagiri-Thiruvannamalai-Tindivanam	170
5.	67	Nagapatnam-Thanjavur-Trichy-Karur	180
6.	68	Salem-Ulundurpet	134
7.	205	TN/AP Border-Thiruthani-Chennai	94

SHRI R. KAMARAJ: The hon. Minister has stated that four laning of eight projects have been included under NHDP Phase IIIA. Will the Minister clarify as to when these projects will be taken up for execution? I also want to know whether the 14 proposals for upgradation of State Highways into National Highways sent by Tamil Nadu Government have been pending with the Centre.

SHRI T.R BAALU: Sir, as far as Phase III A is concerned, all the projects mentioned by the hon. Members are in DPR stage. As and when the DPR is submitted, we will be taking up the work immediately. As regards the other proposal pertaining to the declaration of National Highways, as such, we are not inclined to declare any new National Highways throughout India, because a large length of the National Highways which are under the domain of my Ministry are either single lane or double lane. As such, we are not going to declare new National Highways till such time all the existing National Highways are upgraded.

SHRI R. KAMARAJ: In order to cope with the heavily increasing volume of traffic, the Tamil Nadu Government has forwarded the project of improvements and upgradation of National Highways in Tamil Nadu to the required standard of National Highways on 13.12.2004 at an estimated cost of Rs. 1300 crore. Will the hon. Minister inform the House about the decision taken on these proposals for improving the roads in Tamil Nadu?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, as far as the improvement of the National Highways is concerned, we are doing it from available resources in phased manner. As far as the accrual of CRF is concerned, we have only Rs. 424.62 crores, from 2000-2001 to 2005-06. We have released Rs. 245 crores, so far. As far as the remaining State roads are concerned, we have not processed it.

SHRI R. SHANMUGASUNDARAM: Sir, I would like to ask the hon. Minister whether there is any six laning, because the question says that there are four-laning and six-laning. It there any six-laning going on in Tamil Nadu? What is the progress made in the North-South corridor in the Tamil Nadu sector?

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, as far as Tamil Nadu is concerned, it is well connected with the National Highways. As compared to the national average, for a 1000 sq. kilometre, Tamil Nadu has got 32 kilometre when compared to the national average of 17 kilometre. At the same time, for the one lakh population, it has 6.7 kilometre as compared to the national average of 5.7 kilometres. As far as six-laning is concerned, there is no proposal as such.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I am grateful to the hon. Minister for connecting Pondicherry border with Tamil Nadu *via* Tindivanam. Sir, this four-laning is not only minimising the time of travel, but it is also safe for the passengers. Let us be very frank about it. People are very happy. Therefore, I am grateful to the hon. Minister. But I would like to know from the hon. Minister when they are going to complete this project, because the time-frame is very important. Because in some areas...(*Interruptions*)...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Let him speak.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Because in some areas delay is being caused. So, I want to know the time frame.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, the particular road stretch has already been taken under Phase 3A, and this is in the DPR stage. We will be taking up this project during October-November, 2005. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, I put a very specific question about the time-frame of the project. ...(*Interruptions*)... I had put a very specific question.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, as soon as the DPR is submitted by the concerned agency, we will definitely take it up. ...(*Interruptions*)...

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Sir, there is no assurance from the hon. Minister.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, it is only a short stretch. Sir, we will try to complete it within one year after Land Acquisition.

SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: You kindly mention whether it would be completed within six months or one year.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: We will try to complete it within one year. ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S.P.M SYED KHAN: Sir, I would like to know from the hon. Minister whether the Government has any proposal of four laning of Madurai-Cochin road and also the Dindigul-Sabarimala road to avoid heavy traffic during Sabarimala season. If it is so, I would like to know whether any fund has been allotted for the above projects.

SHRI T.R. BAALU: Sir, I am sorry to say that there is no such proposal.

उड़ीसा में संचार सेवाओं का विस्तार

*167. **श्री कृपाल परमार:** क्या संचार और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार को इस तथ्य की जानकारी है कि उड़ीसा में संचार सेवाएं शिथिल हैं और उनका विस्तार बहुत धीमी गति से हो रहा है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो राज्य में तीव्र गति से संचार सेवाएं उपलब्ध कराने के लिए सरकार ने क्या प्रयास किए हैं और उनके क्या परिणाम रहे;

(ग) उड़ीसा को शत प्रतिशत संचार सेवा के अधीन कब तक लाये जाने की संभावना है; और

(घ) अभी तक इस लक्ष्य को प्राप्त न किए जाने के क्या कारण हैं?

संचार और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री (श्री दयानिधि मारन): (क) से (घ) विवरण सभा पटल पर रख दिया गया है।

विवरण

दूरसंचार विभाग से संबंधित उत्तर

(क) उड़ीसा में (उन 4,899 गांवों को छोड़कर जिनको उपग्रह टर्मिनलों से जोड़े जाने की आवश्यकता है) सभी गांवों में ग्रामीण सार्वजनिक टेलीफोन (वीपीटी) प्रदान करके सार्वजनिक दूरसंचार सेवाएं सुलभ कराई गई हैं। इसके अलावा, जिन 936 गांवों की जनसंख्या 2000 से अधिक है और वहां सार्वजनिक फोन सुविधा नहीं है, उन गांवों में सार्वभौमिक सेवा दायित्व निधि (यूएसओएफ) की सहायता से दूसरे वीपीटी के रूप में ग्रामीण सामुदायिक फोन (आरसीपी) प्रदान किया जाएगा। इनमें से 357 आरसीपी प्रदान किए जा चुके हैं और शेष बचे आरसीपी सितंबर 2007 तक प्रदान कर दिए जाएंगे।